



**Indianapolis**  
*Gregory A. Ballard, Mayor*

# NEWS RELEASE

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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Marc Lotter  
Director of Communications  
Office of Mayor Greg Ballard – City of Indianapolis  
[Marc.Lotter@indy.gov](mailto:Marc.Lotter@indy.gov) C: (317) 726-6589  
[www.indy.gov](http://www.indy.gov) - [Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Flickr](#)

## **Mayor Ballard, Public Safety and Public Health Officials Discuss Ebola Preps in Indy**

INDIANAPOLIS— Mayor Greg Ballard joined Indianapolis public safety and public health officials to provide an update on preparations in the unlikely event a person contracts the Ebola virus, or show signs of Ebola, in Indianapolis. Mayor Ballard says the City along with County, State and Federal officials have been reviewing plans and preparing since the first person with Ebola arrived in the U.S. many weeks ago. City officials stressed that no information exists that anyone in Indy has the disease or may have the disease, but now is the time for officials to prepare.

“We believe Indy is ready,” said Mayor Greg Ballard. “Our teams are putting a plan into place to make sure we protect the general public and our first responders in the unlikely event that someone in Indy contracts the Ebola virus.”

The Department of Public Safety and the Marion County Public Health Department are making sure police, fire, EMS, and hospitals have the equipment and information necessary to safely respond to a potential Ebola patient.

“Right now the fear of Ebola is greater than the threat it poses in Indianapolis,” said Public Safety Director Troy Riggs. “We are getting information to our first responders and equipment ready. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to go about living their daily lives and take the same kind of precautions you would use to prevent catching any type of illness.”

The City and County are taking the following steps:

- Every hospital has implemented consistent screening and isolation measures
- Protective equipment has been issued to personnel and facilities that might be needed to treat an Ebola patient
- IEMS has dedicated an ambulance for transport of suspected patients in Indy and surrounding areas
- IEMS, IMPD and IFD personnel have received information and instructions for handling potential patients
- The Marion County Public Health Department has issued instructions to all healthcare personnel about the safe use and handling of protective equipment and lab specimens

“We have the training and expertise to deal with infectious diseases and are prepared to take the steps necessary to safeguard our patients, healthcare workers and our community,” said Dr. Virginia Caine, Marion County Public Health Director. “Our proactive approach to training and information will help protect our healthcare workers and prevent the spread of any potential virus in our community.”

[Click here](#) for information about Ebola from the Indiana State Department of Health.

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